

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/080,417

Examiner

Anthony Q. Edwards

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS ET AL.

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to June 17, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DARREN SCHUBERG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, filed June 17, 2004, with respect to claims 1 and 3-9 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 6 and 8 has been withdrawn.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-10 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claims 1, 6, 8 and 10 recite an apparatus or method including a disk drive carrier having a first locking part having a rotation axis parallel with an insertion direction of the carrier into a shelf, wherein the first locking part has a visible portion. It would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the visible portion of the first locking part with light emitted from a first light source, and to have the first locking part rotate about an axis parallel with the insertion direction of the carrier into the shelf. These features, in combination with the rest of the elements or steps, are not taught or suggested by the prior art references. Claims 2-5 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons provided above. Claim 7 and claim 9, respectively, depend from claims 6 and 8, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons provided above. Claim 10 recites subject matter similar to claim 1 and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2003/0201902 to Post et al. disclose a removable memory cartridge for use with a server comprising a disk drive carrier system (see Fig. 2) comprising a plurality of disk drive carriers (78) and a shelf (70) the shelf defining a plurality of parallel slots shaped to receive the disk driver carriers, each disk drive carrier carrying a disk drive and having a first electrical connector on a first edge of the carrier, said first edge defining an insertion direction for insertion of the carrier into the shelf, the shelf inherently comprising a plurality of second electrical connectors each disposed to mate with the first electrical connector of a carrier, each disk drive carrier having a first locking part (130) movable between a first position (e.g., locked) and a second position (e.g., unlocked); the system further comprising a plurality of second locking features (not shown) each disposed to engage with the first locking part of a carrier if in said first (i.e., locked) position. See Figs. 2 and 6.

Post et al. also disclose each said carrier further comprising a bezel (74) visible when the first electrical connector of said carrier is mated with said second electrical connector (see Figs. 2, and 6), said bezel defining an opening (not numbered), each said carrier further comprising the first locking part (130) rotatable about an axis between said first and second positions (see Fig. 6A), said first locking part rotation axis being parallel with said insertion direction, a portion of said first locking part visible through said opening, the visible portion of the first locking part shaped to present different appearances when in said first and second positions (see Figs. 6 and 6A).

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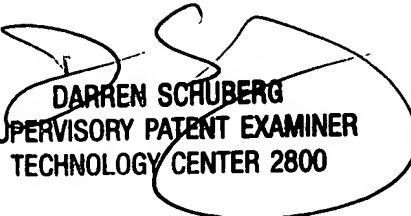
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Q. Edwards whose telephone number is 571-272-2042.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-3:00) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on 571-272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

July 21, 2004
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